

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/016201



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference F2982WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/016201	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 December 2003 (17.12.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 December 2002 (17.12.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G02F 1/17, 1/167			
Applicant BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>6</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 22 December 2004 (22.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/016201

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☐ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages _____ 1-25,27-48 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ 26 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

pages _____ 11-28 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ 1,4-10 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 29 June 2004 (29.06.2004)
 pages* _____ 2 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

☒ the drawings:

pages _____ 1-21 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. _____ 3 _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International Application No.

PCT/JP03/16201

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application.

☒ claims Nos. 20-23, 26, 27

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. _____
relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. _____
are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. _____ are so inadequately supported
by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. 20-23, 26, 27

☐ the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the
Administrative Instructions in that:

the written form

☐ has not been furnished

☐ does not comply with the standard

the computer readable form

☐ has not been furnished

☐ does not comply with the standard

☐ the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with
the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.

☐ see Supplemental Box for further details:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International Application No.

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Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☐ In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:
- ☐ restricted the claims.
 - ☐ paid additional fees.
 - ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
 - ☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.
2. ☒ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- ☐ complied with.
 - ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

See the Supplemental Box

4. Consequently, this report has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

- ☐ all parts.
- ☒ the parts relating to claims Nos. 1-19, 24, 25, 28

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-19, 24, 25, 28 YES

Claims NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims YES

Claims 1-19, 24, 25, 28 NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims 1-19, 24, 25, 28 YES

Claims NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP, 2001-92388, A (Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.), April 6, 2001 (04.06.01)

Document 2: JP, 2002-296623, A (Minolta Co., Ltd.), October 9, 2002 (10.09.02)

The inventions described in claims 1-11, 18, 19 and 28 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1 and 2 cited in the ISR. The inventions of documents 1 and 2 belong to the same technical field, namely, an image display medium manufacturing method. Applying means for removing particles using a roller described in document 2 to the invention of document 1 would be obvious to a party skilled in the art.

The inventions described in claims 12-17, 24 and 25 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1 and 2 cited in the ISR. No particular difficulty is found in setting the particle diameter, surface charge density and volume at the values described in claims 12-17, 24 and 25 in the invention of document 1.

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.
Continuation of Box IV:

Due to the following reasons, this international application is found to include five inventions that do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention.

Main inventions: "Claims 1-19, 24, 25 and 28"

Second inventions: "Claims 20 and 21"

Third inventions: "Claims 22 and 23"

Fourth invention: "Claim 26"

Fifth invention: "Claim 27"

The matter common to claims 1-4 is an "image display panel manufacturing method, wherein powder and granular material or a group of particles dispersed in gas is sprayed, thereby filling cells on a substrate."

However, as a result of performing a search for claims 1-4 as "initially described inventions (main inventions)," it became clear that the above common matter was disclosed in a prior art document [JP, 2001-92388, A (Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.)]; therefore, it does not appear to be novel.

Therefore, the above common matter cannot be found to be "a special technical feature" under PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence.

In comparing claim 4 and the above prior art, the "special technical feature" of the main inventions is found to be a "manufacturing method of an image display device wherein a roller is grounded."

In comparing claims 20 and 21 (second inventions) and the above prior art, the "special technical feature" of the second inventions is found to be a "manufacturing method of an image display device displaying a color image."

In comparing claims 22 and 23 (third inventions) and the above prior art, the "special technical feature" of the third inventions is found to be a "manufacturing method of an image display device characterized in apparent volume of powder and granular material."

In comparing claim 26 (fourth invention) and the above prior art, the "(present) special technical feature" of the fourth invention is found to be a "manufacturing method of an image display device wherein the absolute value of the surface charge density difference of two kinds of particles measured by a blow-off method is $5 \mu \text{C}/\text{m}^2$ - $150 \mu \text{C}/\text{m}^2$."

In comparing claim 27 (fifth invention) and the above prior art, it is found that the "(present) special technical feature" of the fifth invention is a "manufacturing method of an image display device wherein when 8KV voltage is applied to a corona discharge device to cause corona discharge to arise and a surface to be electrically charged, particles are such that the maximum value of the surface charge after 0.3 seconds is larger than 300V."

There is no technical relationship among the main inventions and second through fifth inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features.

The inventions of claims 5-19, 24 and 25 do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step based on the prior art; therefore, they are categorized in the same invention group as the main inventions.